

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A method for reducing power consumption of a subscriber station, comprising:

determining a number of frames that must be received correctly; and  
terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said determining a number of frames that must be received correctly comprises:

determining an amount of redundancy; and  
determining the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining an amount of redundancy comprises:

providing the amount of redundancy independently of the received frames.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining an amount of redundancy comprises:

determining an encoding rate of received frames; and  
determining the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding rate.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said determining the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy comprises:

determining a minimum number of frames that must be received correctly.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:  
increasing said determined minimum number of frames that must be received correctly by a first number.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein said determining an encoding rate of received frames comprises:

determining an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the received frames.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein said determining an encoding rate of received frames comprises:

providing an encoding rate of received frames independently of the received frames.

9. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly comprises:

terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is obligated to receive the frames expired.

10. (Original) A method for performing hard handoff on a common broadcast channel comprising:

receiving at a subscriber station frames transmitted on the common broadcast channel from a first sector;

determining at the subscriber station a need for handoff;

identifying at the subscriber station at least one sector belonging to a soft handoff group different from a soft handoff group including the first sector;

determining a number of frames from a current buffer that must be received correctly;

terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly; and

beginning reception of frames from the identified at least one sector.

11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said determining a number of frames that must be received correctly comprises:

determining an amount of redundancy; and

determine number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.

12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said determining an amount of redundancy comprises:

providing the amount of redundancy independently of the received frames.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said determining an amount of redundancy comprises:

determining an encoding rate of received frames; and

determining the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding rate.

14. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said determining number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy comprises:

determining a minimum number of frames that must be received correctly.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:  
increasing said determining minimum number of frames that must be received correctly by a first number.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said determining an encoding rate of received frames comprises:

determining an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the received frames.

17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said determining an encoding rate of received frames comprises:

providing an encoding rate of received frames independently of the received frames.

18. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly comprises:

terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is obligated to receive the frames expired.

19. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:  
determining whether at least some decoded packets received from the at least one sector are identical to at least some decoded packets received from the first sector; and  
discarding the identical packets.

20. (Original) A method for a handoff from an area covered by an origination system into an area covered by a destination system comprising:  
receiving at a subscriber station service on a channel from a sector in the origination system;  
determining at the subscriber station a need for handoff;  
identifying at the subscriber station a destination system;  
determining a number of frames from a current buffer that must be received correctly;  
terminating reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly;  
tuning to a frequency of the destination system; and  
receiving service on a channel from at least one sector if the at least one sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber station.

21. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:  
determining a time to restart receiving at a subscriber station service on the channel from the sector in the origination system.

22. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:  
storing signals received at the frequency of the destination system;  
retuning to the origination frequency;  
at the subscriber station concurrently:  
receiving service on the channel from the sector in the origination system; and  
analyzing the stored signals to identify a sector in a destination system that can provide service;  
if no sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber station.

23. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22 wherein said retuning to the origination frequency comprises:

retuning to the origination frequency before the time to restart receiving service on a channel from a sector in the origination system

24. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:  
performing hard handoff if the sector in a destination system is identified

25. (Canceled) A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:

replacing part of a content of a parity portion of a transmitting buffer with a signaling information; and

transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on the common broadcast channel.

26. (Canceled) The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:  
increasing power for transmission of the common broadcast channel during the determined time.

27. (Canceled) A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:

encoding a content of a systematic portion of a transmitting buffer with a first code to provide parity bits into a first part of a parity portion of the transmitting buffer;

adding signaling information into a second part of the parity portion of the transmitting buffer, the second part being different from the first part;

transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on the common broadcast channel.

28. (Canceled) The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:  
encoding a content in the systematic portion of the transmitting buffer with a second code to provide parity bits into the parity portion of the transmitting buffer; and

transmitting a content of the transmitting buffer at other than the determined time on the common broadcast channel.

29. (Canceled) The method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising:  
increasing power for transmission of the common broadcast channel during the determined time.

30. (Canceled) A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:  
providing frames received on the common broadcast channel to a receiving buffer;  
decoding the receiving buffer with a first code if the frames were received in error during a determined time; and  
decoding the receiving buffer with a second code if the frames were received in error otherwise.

31. (Canceled) A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:  
encoding a packet containing channel content information with a first code;  
encoding a packet containing channel content information and signaling information with a second code; and  
transmitting said encoded packets.

32. (Canceled) A method for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:  
decoding received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis; and  
decoding received packet in accordance with a second rate hypothesis if said decoding received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis was unsuccessful.

33. (Original) An apparatus for reducing power consumption of a subscriber station, comprising:  
a processor; and  
a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

determine a number of frames that must be received correctly; and  
cause termination of reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly.

34. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 33 wherein said processor is configured to determine a number of frames that must be received correctly by executing a set of instructions to:

determine an amount of redundancy; and  
determine the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.

35. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 34 wherein said processor is configured to determine an amount of redundancy by executing a set of instructions to:

determine the amount of redundancy independently of the received frames.

36. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 34 wherein said processor is configured to determine an amount of redundancy by executing a set of instructions to:

determine an encoding rate of received frames; and  
determine the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding rate.

37. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 34 wherein said processor is configured to determine the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy by executing a set of instructions to:

determine a minimum number of frames that must be received correctly.

38. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 37 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

increase said determined minimum number of frames that must be received correctly by a first number.

39. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 36 wherein said processor is configured to determine an encoding rate of received frames by executing a set of instructions to:  
determine an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the received frames.

40. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 36 wherein said processor is configured to determine an encoding rate of received frames by executing a set of instructions to:  
determine an encoding rate of received frames independently of the received frames.

41. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 33 wherein said processor is configured to cause termination of reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly by executing a set of instructions to:

cause termination of reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is obligated to receive the frames expired.

42. (Original) An apparatus for performing hard handoff on a common broadcast channel comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

cause a subscriber station to receive frames transmitted on a common broadcast channel from a first sector;

determine a need for handoff;

identify at least one sector belonging to a soft handoff group different from a soft handoff group including the first sector;

determine a number of frames from a current buffer that must be received correctly;

cause the subscriber station to terminate reception of the frames when said determined number of frames was received correctly; and

cause the subscriber station to begin reception of frames from the identified at least one sector.



43. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 42 wherein said processor is configured to determine a number of frames that must be received correctly by executing a set of instructions to:

- determine an amount of redundancy; and
- determine the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy.

44. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 43 wherein said processor is configured to determine an amount of redundancy by executing a set of instructions to:

- determine the amount of redundancy independently of the received frames.

45. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 43 wherein said processor is configured to determine an amount of redundancy by executing a set of instructions to:

- determine an encoding rate of received frames; and
- determine the amount of redundancy in accordance with the encoding rate.

46. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 43 wherein said processor is configured to determine the number of frames that must be received correctly in accordance with said determined amount of redundancy by executing a set of instructions to:

- determine a minimum number of frames that must be received correctly.

47. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 46 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

- increase said determined minimum number of frames that must be received correctly by a first number.

48. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 45 wherein said processor is configured to determine an encoding rate of received frames by executing a set of instructions to:

- determine an encoding rate of received frames in accordance with the received frames.

49. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 45 wherein said processor is configured to determine an encoding rate of received frames by executing a set of instructions to:

determine an encoding rate of received frames independently of the received frames.

50. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 42 wherein said processor is configured to cause the subscriber station to terminate reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly by executing a set of instructions to:

cause the subscriber station to terminate reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly and a time during which the subscriber station is obligated to receive the frames expired.

51. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 42 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

determine whether at least some decoded packets received from the at least one sector are identical to at least some decoded packets received from the first sector; and  
discard the identical packets.

52. (Original) An apparatus for a handoff from an area covered by an origination system into an area covered by a destination system comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

cause a subscriber station to receive service on a channel from a sector in the origination system;

determine a need for handoff;

identify a destination system;

determine a number of frames from a current buffer that must be received correctly;

cause the subscriber station to terminate reception of the frames when said determined number of frames were received correctly;

cause the subscriber station to tune to a frequency of the destination system; and

cause the subscriber station to receive service on a channel from at least one sector if the at least one sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber station.

53. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 52 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

determine a time to cause the subscriber station to restart receiving service on the channel from the sector in the origination system.

54. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 52 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

store signals received at the frequency of the destination system;

cause the subscriber station to retune to a frequency of the origination system and receive service on the channel from the sector in the origination system; and

analyze the stored signals to identify a sector in a destination system that can provide service;

if no sector of the destination system is acquired at the subscriber station.

55. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 54 wherein said processor is configured to cause the subscriber station to retune to a frequency of the origination system and receive service on the channel from the sector in the origination system by executing a set of instructions to:

cause the subscriber station to retune to the frequency of the origination system before the time to restart receiving service on a channel from a sector in the origination system

56. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 54 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

cause the subscriber station to perform hard handoff if the sector in a destination system is identified.

57. (Canceled) An apparatus for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

replace part of a content of a parity portion of a transmitting buffer with a signaling

information; and

cause a transmission of a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on the common broadcast channel.

58. (Canceled) The apparatus as claimed in claim 57 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

cause increase of power for transmission of the common broadcast channel during the determined time.

59. (Canceled) A apparatus for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

encode a content of a systematic portion of a transmitting buffer with a first code to provide parity bits into a first part of a parity portion of the transmitting buffer;

add signaling information into a second part of the parity portion of the transmitting buffer, the second part being different from the first part;

cause transmission of a content of the transmitting buffer at a determined time on the common broadcast channel.

60. (Canceled) The apparatus as claimed in claim 59 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

encode a content in the systematic portion of the transmitting buffer with a second code to provide parity bits into the parity portion of the transmitting buffer; and

cause transmission of the content of the transmitting buffer at other than the determined time on the common broadcast channel.

61. (Canceled) The apparatus as claimed in claim 59 wherein said processor is further configured to execute a set of instructions to:

cause increase of power for transmission of the common broadcast channel during the determined time.

62. (Canceled) An apparatus for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

provide frames received on the common broadcast channel to a receiving buffer;

decode the receiving buffer with a first code if the frames were received in error during a determined time; and

decode the receiving buffer with a second code if the frames were received in error during other than the determined time.

63. (Canceled) An apparatus for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

encode a packet containing channel content information with a first code;

encode a packet containing channel content information and signaling information with a second code; and

cause transmission of said encoded packets.

64. (Canceled) An apparatus for utilizing a common broadcast channel for signaling, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to said processor and comprising a set of instructions executable by said processor to:

decode received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis; and

decode received packet in accordance with a second rate hypothesis if said decoding received packet in accordance with a first rate hypothesis was unsuccessful.

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